

adhered to it unvaryingly throughout his life. While he was Assistant Secretary of the Navy, in June 1897, as I have shown in the chapters upon that portion of his career, he defined his attitude on this and other questions of national policy with great clearness and force. While he was President, in every annual message that he sent to Congress, he urged adherence to the same policy. In Mr. annual message of December 1906 he called attention to the universal military service system of Switzerland as a model for the United States to follow. As soon as it became likely that the United States would be drawn into the European war he began to advocate the immediate adoption of measures of preparedness which should enable the country to defend itself and meet with military force any assaults of Germany on its rights and the rights of its citizens. He shared with General Leonard Wood the honor of originating military training camps, and with General Wood took the lead in, arousing public interest in them as a necessary step in national preparedness. For many months the Wilson Administration not only refused financial support for these camps, but openly opposed them. The boys and men who went to them paid the expenses. Later an association of business men paid for their support. The hostility of the Wilson Administration to both Boosevolt and General Wood was openly disclosed by an incident that occurred in the summer of 1915. An officers' training camp, the first of several, had been

established at Platts-
burg, N. Y., and was in operation under
General Wood's di-
rection. By invitation from General Wood, on
August 25,
1915, Roosevelt visited the camp and made
an address to
its members who, with visitors from the
neighborhood, made
up an audience of several thousand persons.
The address-
was confined to an earnest appeal for
national prepared-
ness along the lines that Roosevelt had
followed for many
years. He made no mention of the President
or of the
national administration in it, but dwelt upon
the subject
as a great national need which was being
perilously ne-
glected. After leaving the camp, Roosevelt
made a state-